



Welcome to
the Catholic Communities of
St. Mary's, Clayton
St. John's, LaFargeville

January 10, 2021

Rev. Arthur J. LaBaff, Pastor
Phone: 315-686-3398

Pastoral Associate

Deacon Neil Fuller

email: pastoralassociate@stmarysclayton.org

Deacon Assistants

Gary A. Frank

Bruce Daugherty

Parish Office

Maribeth McFadden, Secretary

email: reception@stmarysclayton.org
Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-4pm

Religious Education Office

(Located in St. Mary's Parish Center)

Jennifer Barton 315-686-2638

email: religiouised@stmarysclayton.org

**Buildings & Grounds
& Cemeteries**

Call the Parish Office 315-686-3398

St. Mary's Weekend Masses

Saturdays at 4:00 p.m.

Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

St. John's Weekend Masses

Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

Weekday & Holy Day Masses

See page 2 or call the Parish Office

Reconciliation

3:00–3:30pm Saturday
in St. Mary's parish center
and by appointment

First Friday Holy Hour

after 9:00 a.m. Mass on the first
Friday of the month at St. Mary's

Prayer Line

315-285-5541

smsjprayerline@gmail.com

The Baptism the Lord

We need history. We need it in order to understand ourselves, personally and collectively. The pieces of our histories may not have always been the most positive, honest, exemplary, dignified, proud, and best moments of our lives, but they are ours. We have to acknowledge, remember, accept, and often heal them. We cannot forget them or pretend that they never existed. As horrible as the atrocities of events like Auschwitz, brutal injustices committed throughout the human journey, or personal painful experiences in our own stories, we need to remember. These times when humanity in general or people in particular have lost their way are times that need to be reconciled and redeemed.

If we lose the memories, we will make the same mistakes again. The human soul needs a strong sense of affirmation, direction, and clear purpose. Without these essentials, we will easily run amuck and repeat the sins of our past. God's voice throughout history has spoken precisely about this! We are reminded through the voices and example of many prophets and witnesses not to make the same mistakes again, come back to center, discover the purpose given to us by God, maintain a sense of proper direction, seek healing for wounds, and be reconciled to our Creator.

Baptism is so incredibly important for the salvation of humankind, not only eternally but here and now. Our existence depends upon it. It gives us the affirmation we need from God by gifting us with the same intimate relationship Jesus had with the Father. We are blessed with the direction and clear purpose we need in order to be productive stewards and faithful Christians. Baptism calls us to remember, accept, and deal with the sins and inequities of our past regardless of how hurtful and serious. We consciously choose to turn away from them and put on the new life of Christ. To do this well, we must look hard and long at our sins and failings, listen to what they are saying, and learn from them. If we ignore the past, collectively or personally, or pretend that it never happened, we will never grow. We will surely die.

People need to hear the message, lived and spoken, delivered by the baptized members of the Body of Christ. It is an essential message of hope that is layered with visions of justice, peace, reconciliation, redemption, blessing, and healing. It is a message that helps us remember what has gone before, the graces and the sins, and bring ourselves by God's help where we need to be. We are called to do much more than sit home behind our closed doors. We have a message to deliver. Are we ready to do so?

Website: www.stmarysclayton.org

Rectory & Parish Offices: 521 James Street, Clayton, NY 13624

Phone: 315-686-3398

January 10, 2021, Baptism of the Lord

The Lord Calls: "Behold the Lamb of God." Could it be that you are being called to point out the Lord to others as a priest, deacon, or in the consecrated life? Talk to Fr. Art LaBaff, or Fr. Chris Carrara at ccarrara@rcdony.org / 315-393-2920, or Cathy Russell at crusell@rcdony.org / 315-393-2920.

**MASS SCHEDULE:****SATURDAY, January 9, Anticipated Vigil**

4:00 (SM) George Leavery by Victor Leavery

SUNDAY, January 10, Baptism of the Lord

9:00 (SM) Terry O'Sullivan by Dc. Neil & Dee Fuller

11:00 (SJ) People of the Parishes

MONDAY, January 11

9:00 (SM) Tom Black by Barb Ierlan & family

TUESDAY, January 12

9:00 (SM) Mike Geiss by Loretta & family

WEDNESDAY, January 13

9:00 (SM) Michael Hazen by Dc. Neil & Dee Fuller

THURSDAY, January 14

9:00 (SM) COMMUNION SERVICE

FRIDAY, January 15

9:00 (SM) Lucy Reff by Dan & Linda Schleher

SATURDAY, January 16, Anticipated Vigil

4:00 (SM) Lucy Reff by Stephanie Davies & family

SUNDAY, January 17, 2nd Sunday Ordinary Time

9:00 (SM) Phil Ivey, Jr. by Joyce & girls

11:00 (SJ) People of the Parishes

*No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church;
No matter what your current family or marital situation;
No matter what your past or present religious affiliation;*

*No matter what your own personal history,
age, background, race, or color;*

*No matter what your own self-image or esteem;
You are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved, and respected
at St. Mary's and St. John's Catholic Churches.*



St. Mary's Booster Club: Winners of the seventh weekly drawing on January 1 are Bobby Bastian, Elizabeth Wheaton, and Diane Leavery. The dinner is Saturday, January 16 at 4:30pm and will be take-outs only. Don't miss out—get your ticket today! To join, volunteer, or for questions, contact Donna (315-778-8672), Tim (315-778-2484), or the parish office (315-686-3398).

*O God, protector of all who hope in you,
bless your people, keep them safe,
defend them, prepare them,
that, free from sin and safe from the enemy,
they may persevere always in your love.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*



**The Sanctuary Lamp at St. Mary's
is in Loving Memory of
Ron Houppert
By Anne**

HOPE—St. Mary's and St. John's Substance Abuse Ministry. If you or a loved one suffer from the ravages of drug or alcohol abuse, perhaps we can help. Email stmarysclyatonsam@gmail.com or call 315-783-5268.

Weekly Giving

Thank you for your continued support.

St. Mary's	This Year	Last Year
Envelopes	\$ 846.00	\$ 1,246.00
Plate	\$ 142.00	\$ 314.00
<i>December Electronic Giving: \$ 3,575.00</i>		

St. John's	This Year	Last Year
Envelopes	\$ 493.00	\$ 571.00
Plate	\$ 1.00	\$ 58.00
<i>December Electronic Giving: \$ 668.00</i>		

Please consider electronic giving...a safe and consistent way to support your parish.

Sign up at www.stmarysclyatton.org or contact the parish office for more info.

From Fr. LaBaff:

As we move into the New Year there is a sense of gratitude that 2020 is gone forever! Nevertheless, the effects of that year are still with me. There have been days of separation from parishioners and parish staff. There have been days of great joy such as First Communion and Confirmation for our younger parishioners. There has been joy in ministering with our Commissioned Lay Ministers. There was joy in telephoning our people shut in their homes for long weeks and months and joy in several small weddings. Being able to celebrate Mass every day with the assistance of one of our deacons and their wives.

Now with God's grace we can move ahead in this New Year. It will not be easy and there is a lot of pain and suffering ahead. We do not know what each day will bring, but we do know that Jesus is walking with us much like the person in the painting of a person walking on the beach and he sees only one set of footprints. He asks where were you Lord when I needed you the most and the Lord replied that those were my footprints because I was carrying you in your time of need.

The Lord will be with us in the New Year and we need to be faithful to the call that we have to Follow Him.



Diocesan Mass for Life: Bishop LaValley will celebrate a Mass for Life on Sunday, January 24 at 11am at St. Mary's Cathedral, Ogdensburg. It will be live-streamed at www.rcdony.org/livemass. Join in person or virtually to pray for a deeper respect for human life. For more info, contact the Respect Life Office at cminer@rcdony.org.

2021 Vocation Calendars are available at the entrances of the churches and the parish office. These calendars are thoughtfully provided to you by Cummings Funeral Services. Be sure to take one for your use or for a friend or relative. A special thank you to the Cummings family for providing these calendars.

Day of Prayer for Legal Protection of Unborn Children *January 22nd - Day of Prayer and Fasting*

The over 60 million abortions since the 1973 decisions of Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton reflect with heartbreaking magnitude what Pope Francis means by a "throwaway culture." However, we have great trust in God's providence. We are reminded time and again in Scripture to seek the Lord's help, and as people of faith, we believe that our prayers are heard.

January 22 is designated as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children". "In all the Dioceses of the United States, January 22 shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion." As individuals, we are called to observe this day through the penitential practices of prayer and fasting. "Only with prayer—prayer that storms the heavens for justice and mercy, prayer that cleanses our hearts and souls—will the culture of death that surrounds us today be replaced with a culture of life." —U.S. Catholic Bishops, Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities

Contact the parish office for a copy of "A Novena to Three American Saints for Life" or visit <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/resources/january-22-day-of-prayer.cfm> for more resources.

Prayer Ministry: Do you have a concern or petition that you wish to have others pray with you? You can call the *Prayer Line* at 315-285-5541 or send an email to smsjprayerline@gmail.com. You do not have to leave your name, just your request for prayer. If you would like to be one who prays for the intentions requested, just leave your name and telephone or email and you will be notified of prayers requested.

Food Pantry Contact Numbers:

Clayton Food Pantry: 315-767-1220
Orleans Food Pantry: 315-658-4796

Did You Know...

by Judy Pearson

St. Oliver Plunkett Saint Of Peace & Reconciliation

Oliver Plunkett was born in County Meath, Ireland on November 1, 1629. He studied for the priesthood in Rome and was ordained there in 1654. After some years of teaching and service to the poor of Rome, he was appointed Archbishop of Armagh in Ireland. He soon established himself as a man of peace and, with religious fervor, set about visiting his people, establishing schools, ordaining priests, and confirming thousands.

In 1673 there was a renewal of religious persecution, and bishops were banned by edict. Archbishop Plunkett went into hiding, suffering a great deal from cold and hunger. His many letters showed his determination not to abandon his people, but to remain a faithful shepherd. He thanked God "Who gave us the grace to suffer for the chair of Peter."

In 1679 he was arrested and falsely charged with treason. The government in power could not get him convicted at his trial in Dundalk. He was brought to London and was unable to defend himself because he was not given time to bring his own witnesses from Ireland. He was put on trial, and with the help of perjured witnesses, was sentenced to be hanged, drawn and quartered at Tyburn. With deep serenity of soul, he was prepared to die, calmly rebutting the charge of treason, refusing to save himself by giving false evidence against his brother bishops. Oliver Plunkett publicly forgave all those who were responsible for his death on July 1, 1681." [From: Saints & Angels, Catholic Online]

St. Oliver Plunkett was beatified by Pope Benedict XV in 1920 and canonized by Pope St. Paul VI on October 12, 1975, the first new Irish saint for almost 700 years, and the first of the Irish martyrs to be beatified. For his canonization, the customary second miracle was waived. His head is preserved at Drogheda and his body at Downside Abbey, near Bath.

In 1920, a mosaic of him at Westminster Cathedral, London was created by Boris Anrep.

In 1997, Plunkett was made a patron saint for Peace & Reconciliation in Ireland.



The 99 Experience: The Office of Evangelization is offering an online workshop called The 99 Experience, a three-session video presentation to spark conversation, inspire prayer, and awaken the call of God's love within you.

Think of it as a virtual parish mission. As Catholics, we often think of ourselves as part of the flock, as part of the 99, safe in the care of the Good Shepherd. We do not see ourselves as the "one lost sheep" needing to be found, nor do we feel the need to go out and search for the one lost sheep. The 99 Experience is a call to recognize that we might be that one sheep who is lost, even though we are part of Jesus' flock. It is a call to enter into a deeper relationship with Jesus, the Good Shepherd. It is also a call to recognize that God may want to work through us to go out and find the one who is lost. Presented by the Diocesan Office of Evangelization via Zoom on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm on January 14, 21, and 28. To register for this presentation, go to www.rcdony.org/99Evangelization.

Catechism in a Year is an email program provided free by Flocknote. Monday through Friday, receive a short email of two easy-to-read paragraphs summarizing two teachings of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. In a year's time you will have gone through the whole Catechism. This is completely free! To sign up, go to www.flocknote.com/catechism. It is a simple way to learn more about your faith.

Walking with St. Joseph as Our Guide Retreat: This year, the 150th anniversary of St. Joseph being declared the Patron of the Church has been dedicated to St. Joseph in our Diocese and in the universal Church. Our attention is focused on one in the background of the Nativity scene. This retreat will consider the mind and heart of St. Joseph, as reflected in his actions, and how he may be a faithful guide and companion in our own lives. Saturday, January 16 from 10am to 2pm on Zoom. Facilitator is Sister Bethany Fitzgerald, SSJ. There is no cost, but offerings can be mailed to Sisters of St. Joseph, 1425 Washington Street, Watertown. To register, phone 315-212-6592 or email srbethssj@gmail.com.

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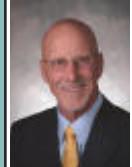
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06-0098